

THE GARZETTE

Volume 18, Issue 8

147.075+

444.525+5mhz

53.110 -1mhz

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Do You 7 Know!

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New Meeting Time is 1900, or 7:00 p.m.

A Note from the President, Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV

I've started to get some feedback from local clubs on TechFest. I believe we are in for the busiest and most fun TechFest ever. Do your part, and spread the word. It doesn't do a lot of good for us to put on a great event if no one shows up.

Between contests, club meeting, planning sessions, nets, trying to practice some CW, watching the clusters for that perfect opening and working for a living, it's easy to stay busy. I do something Amateur Radio about every day. Of course working about 3 feet from the radios helps.

Let's go out to a ball game! Ralph, KJ4CNC, has reserved a block of tickets for the Gwinnett Braves baseball game on August 13. This is a great chance to see a ballgame with some friends at a great price. More info is on the web site. You don't have to be a GARS member to take advantage of this offer, so share the info.

I recently attended a NFARL meeting where they were quick to let me know that their FD score was a little higher than ours. They may have had a great score, but we had a great time. Over 50 of us participated in the setup operating and clean-up. It's not supposed to be a contest anyway!!

If you are into looking for DX or operating 10and 6 meters, most everyday the last week or so there have been openings. You'll want to watch one of the clusters such as http://www.dxsummit.fi/DxSpots.aspx, or the vhfdx.net site http://vhfdx.net/spots/map.php?Lan=E&Frec=28&Map=NA&mycall=&myloc=&freq=&prop= both of these help you find opening in our area. If you don't understand the way they operate, stay around just after the Monday net and ask questions.

This weekend I sent out a note about the GARS Yahoo group to folks I couldn't identify as being on the list. These were email addresses different in the membership database than on the group. No problem with separate email addresses, but it does make it hard to be sure everyone gets in on our best online communications tool. If you have not joined the Yahoo group, you are probably missing out on some interesting amateur radio related information. So Join. There is a link on the GARS web site. And while we're at it, if your email address has changed since you joined GARS, you should notify Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN our membership chairman and advise him of the changes.

I hope you all saw the announcement about Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, receiving the Joe Knight Distinguished Service Award: The Board conferred ARRL Joe Knight Distinguished Service Awards on two long-time volunteers this year: former Western New York Section Manager Bill Thompson, W2MTA, of Newark Valley, New York, and Georgia Section Manager Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, of Norcross, Georgia.

The August Meeting will be Portable, hand-held Amateur Television by Tim, N4EEE

73 and hope to hear you soon.

Norm, WA4ZXV



August 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 0730 breakfast
2	3 2000 2m net	4 meeting	5 2100 6m net	6	7	8 0730 breakfast
9	10 2000 2m net	11	12 2100 6m net	13	14	15 0730 breakfast
16	17 2000 2m net	18	19 ₂₁₀₀ 6m net	20	21 Dog Show	22 0730 breakfast
23 Dog Show	24 2000 2m net	25	26 2100 6m net	27	28	29 0730 breakfast
30	31 2000 2m net					

GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.
 Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

The GARZETTE

The GARZETTE is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to ka4kkf@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

The GARZETTE is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on The GARZETTE by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue. For any additional information contact: Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf (770-271-9398) ka4kkf@arrl.net

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048 Attn: Newsletter Editor

Do you know a boy or girl 14 to 21 years old who wants to:

Climb, Hike
Canoe, Camp
Talk on an amateur radio
Have Fun
Tell them about

Venture Crew 73

We meet the second Tuesday of each Month at 7:00PM prior to the GARS meeting at St. Marguerite D'Youville Church..

For more information Visit www.venturecrew73.org

Ham Exam results

We had 8 VE's present. We had 10 people show up to take their exams.

1 upgrade to General 1 upgrade to Extra 5 new Technicians 2 new Generals (passed Technician & General exams) 1 failed Technician

GARS Communication System

70 Cm Repeater	2 Meter Repeater
444.525(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone	147.075(+) MHz 82.5 PL Tone
<u>APRS</u>	Main Repeater Site
144.390 1200 Baud W4GR	Oak Street, Lawrenceville
	Backup Repeater Site
6 Meter Repeater	Lanier Mountain, Snellville
53.110 (-1 MHz) 82.5 PL Tone	Remote Receive Sites Bogan Road, Buford Lanier Mountain, Snellville
D-Star	•

Net Control Operators for GARS Monday Net.

Hal W4IGE

John WB4QDX

Susan AF4FO

Sandy KJ4DRO

Ken KI4BQS

WD4STR

145.060 - (600KHZ)

440.550 + (5MHZ)

These folks with the assistance of several Alternate NCS stations have kept us on the Monday night schedule without failure for several months. Joel, W4JOL, is the net manager and has kept the net tip top. We have 30+ check-ins most weeks. We hear some news, find out who needs what and who has what for sale. There is still room on the schedule for a additional operators, so if you are ready, willing and able to help, give Joel a call.

Volunteering for alternate is a good practice tool. The net script is available from a link on http://gars.org/sharedborder/net%20schedule.html. Thanks again to all that serve as net control and those that check-in each week.

Norman Schklar, WA4ZXV

President

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at www.arrl-ga.org

First Saturday, Even Months

9:00AM EOC Building Butch Nitz, AF4FS (770) 968-8780

First Wednesday

7:00 PM ARRL/VEC Roberts School 4681 School Street, Acworth Jodi Escher AG4BK 770-387-1591

Second Saturday, Odd Months

ARRL VEC 8:30 AM Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain Bob Varone, W4ETN (770)978 - 3179

Third Saturday

CA VEC 9:00AM Marietta First United Methodist Church Room 305, 56 Whitlock Ave Marietta David Still, WB4RRD (770) 973-2566

Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC 7:00 PM United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Road, Douglasville

Third Sunday

W5YI VEC 3:00 - 5:00 PM Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge 465 South Perry Street Lawrenceville , GA 30044 770-963-5721

Fourth Sunday

2:30 PM Georgia Tech GATECH-VANLEER ELEC ENGRG Commerce Public Library BLDG-RMW218 777 ATLANTIC DRIVE WWW.W4AQL.ORG TALKIN 145.15-PL 167.9 ATLANTA, GA 30332 Contact: ALEXANDER G CARVER (404)894-2936



Metro Atlanta Club Meetings

First Tuesday Kennehoochee ARC

Southern Polytechnic State University Meeting begins at 7:30 PM Talk In 146.880(-)

Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC

Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00 PM

First Thursday Atlanta Radio Club

Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30 PM Talk In -146.820(-)

N.E. Georgia ARC

Meeting is at 6:30 PM Talk In - 147.225(+)PL 123.0

Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club

ACARVER@ECE.GATECH.EDU Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd & Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00 PM Meeting at 7:30 PM Talk In - 146.760(-)

Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Masonic Lodge 194 Milton Avenue Alpharetta, Georgia meeting at 7:30 PM Talk In - 145.47(-)

Second Saturday North GA QRP Club

Wieuca Baptist Church on Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

July 2009 GARS General Meeting July 14, 2009

- 1. Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, President, called the meeting to order at the new starting time of 7:00 pm.
- Tech Fest announcements were made.
- 3. There were 51 GARS members at Field Day and over 100 in total including the mayor of Lawrenceville, representatives from Gwinnett Emergency Management Agency, among others.
- 4. The dog show will be August 21, 22, and 23. Volunteers are needed. This is the major GARS fundraiser.
- 5. Introductions were made of those present.
- 6. A Technician class was conducted by the Walton ARC primarily for public safety personnel. Twenty-one passed the test.
- 7. Gordon Anthony is still in the hospital and would welcome calls and cards.
- 8. Committee reports and announcements:
 - A. Membership two new members were voted into full membership:
- i. Donald Jackson, W4DWJ, General Class and
- ii. Tom Power, W8RED, General Class.
- B. The members of Crew 73 are currently at Rainey Mountain Boy Scout Camp and have an HF station in operation.
 - C. The Holiday Party will be December 4, mark your calendars.
 - D. There will be a Technician to General class this fall.
 - E. The treasurer reported that we have approximately \$6,000.
 - F. There will be a GARS night at the Gwinnett Braves in mid-August.
- 9. Field Day score update total QSO's 1,697 for 4,484 points. We obtained 4,266 points last year.
- 10. Paul Kelly, W4KLY, had the most contacts with 222.

Break.

- 11. Mike Weathers, ND4V, gave a very interesting program on the PJ2T DX Phone contest in Curacao, and on QSL cards sending and receiving paper gems.
- 12. Prize drawing was held.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

ARRL Southeastern Division Director: Greg Sarratt, W4OZK w4ozk@arrl.org

Here are some of the highlights that pertain to our division from the ARRL July Board of Directors meeting last weekend.

Vice-Director Jeff Beals attended his orientation and his first meeting as Vice-Director and he did us proud. Three deserving hams won awards in our division. Georgia SM, Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, was awarded the Joe Knight Distinguished Service Award.

The award recognizes "exceptionally notable contributions by a Section Manager to the health and vitality of the League." The ARRL Board of Directors created the award in 2003 to honor former ARRL New Mexico SM Joe Knight, W5PDY, who was its first recipient. He died in December of that year. Until ill health forced him to step down as SM in July 2003, Joe guided the New Mexico Section for nearly 27 years, longer than any of his peers.

The 2008 Doug DeMaw, W1FB, Technical Excellence Award recipient was John Stanley, K4ERO of Rising Fawn, Georgia, for his article series "The Beauty of Spectrum Analysis", which appeared in the June and July 2008 issues of QST.

The 2009 ARRL Technical Service Award was awarded to Geoffrey Haines, N1GY of Bradenton, Florida. Mr. Haines is a prolific author, writing twelve articles, in Hints and Kinks, Product Review and full articles.

Please join me in congratulating these winners in our division.

Other items were, the establishment of an Emergency Liaison Station appointment at the national level to link ARRL Headquarters to affected areas during disasters utilizing Voice-Over Internet Protocol.

Creation of the George Hart Distinguished Service Award for exemplary service in the ARRL Field Organization.

Much more was done during the intensive weekend, such as, spending most of Saturday on ARRL strategic planning review and updates. Look for additional details and other award information in the ARRL board meeting articles.

73, Greg Sarratt, W4OZK

GARS Night at the Gwinnett Braves

We've scheduled GARS Night at the Gwinnett Braves

Thursday, August 13th, 2009, 7:00p (Durham Bulls)

Great Seats: Section 111 (in the shade, behind 1st base dugout)

Great Price: \$6.00 per seat (1/2 normal price)

Wear your GARS apparel to the game. The club will be announced and will have a listing on the electronic scoreboard. You will be on your own for refreshments and parking is available at the stadium (\$3.00 per car for parking - pay at the stadium).

Check out the GARS web site and order your tickets through the PayPal link.

Get your orders in early - we have to make a seat committment to the G-Braves by July 31st.Look forward to seeing you there. Let me know if you need any fill on this announcement.

Ralph - KJ4CNC

TV Repairman Leads K8WDJ to Lifelong Hobby By Jim Massara, N2EST

The first thing one notices about GARS member Dave Adanich, K8WDJ, is that he smiles easily and laughs a lot. This is a man who enjoys life – and enjoys the hobby of ham radio.

First licensed at age 13 as KN8WDJ, Adanich and his older brother were introduced to ham radio by, of all people, a TV repairman in their native Cleveland, Ohio. "He had a 1951-panel-side Chevy truck, and he had a 10-meter mobile rig in it. And my brother and I couldn't wait for the TV to break," Adanich recalls with a chuckle. "So he would come over, and he'd be working on the TV, and we'd be in his truck, listening to the bands. It was fantastic."

One of Adanich's fondest memories of his youth was the crystal-controlled transmitter he built for his school's science fair – which won him first place. His brother found the rig two years ago and returned it to him. Amazingly, it still works. Adanich keeps it his shack – which he's currently renovating – and occasionally fires it up for a QSO. He also has a Heathkit VF-1 VFO that he sometimes uses with it.

Adanich's shack is currently anchored with a Yaesu FT-920 and an older Icom IC-740. He also has matching Heathkits, an SB-303 receiver and SB-401 transmitter.

And then there's his car. To celebrate his retirement in 2001, Adanich, now 62, purchased a Chrysler PT Cruiser and promptly decked it out with rigs and antennas. His current set-up is an Icom IC-706 transceiver and an LVG Z100 auto-tuner feeding into a modified Hamstick on the back of the car. Adanich loves it. "Some of the accidental DX that I work out of this thing is scary," he says with a laugh. He's so sold on the antenna tuner, in fact, that he says he plans to replace the manual tuners in his shack with an LVG auto-tuner.

Adanich also is active on PSK 31, which he says he "fell in love with" during Field Day in 2008. In 2009 he set up the PSK station – and encountered band conditions "absolutely the worst" he had ever seen for the first 12 hours. "And then, about 3:30 in the morning, I was listening to the band, and I hear this call coming back, and all of a sudden all the noise disappeared. It was a ham in Scotland. We sat there, keyboard to keyboard, for about 30 minutes. After that we ended up with 79 contacts."

Adanich, who lives in Lilburn, worked many years for AT&T and was one of the founders of the Metropolitan Atlantas Telephone Pioneers Amateur Radio Club (MATPARC). Since retirement he's thrown himself into volunteer work, and not just in amateur radio. As a training coordinator for the local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), he's worked for several thousand hours and was honored with a Presidential award for volunteerism.

But it all comes back to ham radio. Says Adanich: "This is about the best hobby I think that you can have."

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Georgia QSO Party Plaque sponsored by GARS



Number 1 in Field Day contacts. W4KLY



Stuart's First QSO

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One of the great things about Field Day are the stories. Every year, I add a story or two to my repertoire. This year is no exception.

My best story from Field Day 2009 starts about 1:30 pm on Saturday. I was at my post at the public information table/GOTA station. We had been ready to rock and roll for at least a half hour, so a group of us were just sitting around chewing the fat when 13-year-old Stuart and his mother walked up to the table.

Her son was a little on the shy side, so his mother explained that Stuart had seen a listing of our Field Day site on the Internet and had asked her to bring him out to see us. She mentioned that Stuart had been listening to ham radio operators on his little Yaesu handheld scanner for several years and was very excited to actually meet some ham radio operators and see ham radio in action.

Not only that, she said that he had taught himself Morse Code. A kid after my own heart! I quickly volunteered to give them a tour of our Field Day site. First, I showed him our VHF/UHF station, and he seemed really impressed with the five single-band radios.

Next, I took him into the 40m phone station. I asked how fast he could copy Morse Code, and he said 30 words per minute. I cranked the receiver down into the CW portion of the band, and sure enough, he could copy anything that I tuned in. At this point, it was still only 1:45 pm, so I told him, "Let's go over to one of the CW stations, and we'll see if we can make a contact." We marched over to the CW #2 station, and after getting clearance from the station captain, I tuned around for a clear frequency, then called CQ. Immediately, N5VV, replied. At this point, Stuart was so excited, he was shaking a little bit. Since the contest was just about ready to start, I kept the contact short, but that didn't matter. Stuart had finally gotten to see ham radio in action. Stuart's mother then inquired about taking the test. I explained that our Volunteer Examiners give the test every second Saturday of the month and gave her the URL of our website. She said that Stuart had been studying and was ready to take the test.

Unfortunately, they had to leave at that point. I told Stuart's mother that we'd be there through 2pm Sunday and to come back any time. She said that they'd definitely be back the next day.

Stuart Makes His First Contact

Stuart and his mother returned about 1:30 pm on Sunday. He wanted to see the VHF/UHF station again, so that was our first stop. He took a couple of photos of the setup, and then I suggested we go over to the GOTA station. When we first got there, someone was at the mike, but shortly afterwards, they got up, and Stuart and I took the controls.

When we first sat down, I made a few contacts using my call to show him how to use the paddle. I noted that holding the levers down produces a series of dits or dahs, and that by tapping the other lever while holding down the first, you can produce a dit between dahs or a dah between dits.

Then, I asked him if he'd like to try it. He said yes, so just to see how it would go, I tuned up to above 7100 kHz. There was no activity up there, so I set the keyer speed to 15 wpm and told him to send my callsign a few times. He reached over with his left hand and sent it perfectly. Now, remember, this is someone who'd never touched a paddle of any kind before. Not only that, he even sent the K (dah-di-dah) iambically! That is to say that he held the dah paddle while tapping the dit paddle to slip in a dit between the two dahs.

Then, I asked if he'd like to make some contacts. He said yes, so I said, "Let's switch seats." We switched seats, and I said, "OK, tune around a little and find a strong station calling CQ." We found K2ZR, and I coached him a little on how to reply. "Now, remember," I said, "we're going to use the W8PGW callsign." When I gave him the nod to send, he reached over with his RIGHT hand and sent W8PGW perfectly! When K2ZR replied with our call and the exchange, I coached him to reply with "4A MI." Not only did he do that, but he slipped in a "R" to denote that we'd copied the exchange. When K2ZR replied with a "TU," I showed him how to log the contact.

That's all the coaching I needed to do. After the first contact, I said, "OK. Now, tune around for another station calling CQ, and we'll make another contact." He was off to the races. As soon as he made a contact, he jumped up to type it into the log. His arms weren't long enough to reach the computer from where he was

seated.

When we started, the keyer speed was set to 15 wpm. After a couple of contacts, I asked if he might want to send faster. When he said OK, I bumped it up to 18 wpm. After a few QSOs with only a couple of mistakes, he asked if we could go faster, so I set it at 20 wpm. Again, only a couple of mistakes, so we bumped it up to 22 wpm. There, he started making more mistakes, but let me repeat, he never touched any kind of key before in his life. I have no doubt that with a little practice, he could easily do 30 wpm.

Overall, he made 12 contacts in the 21 minutes he operated the station. Not a bad rate for someone who'd never sent a character of Morse Code in his life, don't you think?

Unfortunately, Stuart was not able to take the test at our July VE session as he was at Boy Scout camp. Come the second week of August, though, he'll be a ham. He even has a vanity callsign picked out for himself. Listen for him--in the CW bands, of course.

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, is the station manager for WA2HOM, the ham radio station at Ann Arbor's Hands-On Museum, and the ARRL MI Section's Training Manager. You can read more about his adventures in ham radio by going to www.kb6nu.com.

From the Editor

David Adcock, ka4kkf

This has been fun. I appreciate all the help from you guys and gals. The newsletter is the heartbeat of the club. You make it, you read it.

It's time for me to let someone else take over and run with the ball for a while. I know you will give Jim all your support in making the newsletter even better.

Jim Massara, N2EST will become the new editor with the September edition.

I'll still be around lurking in the background. If a need comes up , I'll pitch in to help. I'm still active with field day and techfest and the web page and repeater operations. I hope to be on the air more. There is so much to do and so little time in the day to do them. Psk operation and packet are the main modes I am concentrating on right now. Maybe I'll have time to fit in a few contest this winter. Once again, thanks for your support and volunteer to help out. You can make a difference if you get involved.

73, David KA4KKF

GARS APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME:	PHONE #	
CALL:	-	
NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED:	-	
CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED.		

ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
T-SHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$20.00	
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Red			\$24.00	
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Red			\$28.00	
White			\$28.00	
SWEATSHIRT				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
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Red WITH name & call			\$30.00	
White WITH name & call			\$30.00	
LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET RED ONLY				
WITHOUT name & call			\$31.00	
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Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Dick Sandberg, N9SXJ or mail to:

GARS

P.O. Box 88

Lilburn, Georgia 30048

NOTE: Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Dick N9SXJ

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88Lilburn, GA 30048

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

Amateur Call Sig	gn		License Class	Novice	Technician	General
Name	······································			Advanced	Extra	
Address						
City		_ State	Zip			
Email address						
Home Telephone	9		Work Tele	phone		
Cell Telephone			Date of Bi	rth/_	1	(mm/dd/yy)
ARRL Member	Yes N	lo Life)			
Interests		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
I prefer to receiv	e the GARZETT	E newslette	er by: US Mail	Email (please check	only one)
Type of Mem	bership			Option	nal Contrib	utions
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License Class	Technician	General	Extra ARRL M	ember Ye	es No	Life
			tt Amateur Radio Soc		stand that me	 mbership is subject to th
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Applicant Signat	ure			Da	ite/	/

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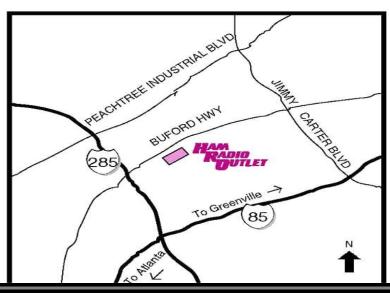
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Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society P.O. Box 88 Lilburn, GA 30048





To receive the Garzette via email contact, please contact the membership chairman

Saturday Morning

Breakfast

Join us at the Golden Coral on Riverside Drive in

Lawrenceville at 7:30 a.m.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 11th

The Meetings are on the Second Tuesday of the month 7:00pm at the St Marguerite D'Youville Church,

85 Gloster Rd NW,

Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Just off Highway 29 SW of Lawrenceville.

Directions on the Web site.

http://www.gars.org

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